CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT	Comments on the Reorganization of the	DATE DISTR. MA	R 30 19 55	
	Soviet Government and the Role of the Soviet Army	NO. OF PAGES 2		
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- 1. Two cornerstones were noticeable in Stalin's foreign policy program: (a) that a strong Germany could not be permitted to arise again and (b) that China could not be allowed to get beyond the control of the USSR. In both cases the program has failed. The remilitarization of Germany continues to grow. Moreover, the Western world has won a series of successes without the help of the Eastern block in Trieste, Suez, and Iran. The Kremlin leaders have recorded a series of foreign political failures.
- 2. The Soviet Army, which considers foreign policy to be an important matter, has not been able to accept this. Therefore, the Army itself has taken over the power. The Army already played a role at Stalin's death when it put forward Nikita S. Khrushchev, who was made equal to Georgiy M. Malenkov. The Army overthrew Beriya, who was supported by his political (sic: probably security) troops. If Beriya had been able to adapt himself to the Army, he would be living today and would have continued as the real dictator which he was for a short time. The Army finally pushed forward Khrushchev as the leader when it decided to prop up the Party. The Army accomplished all this because it has the weapons, and the one who has the weapons in the USSR has the power.
- 3. At present, the Soviet Army is the only real power in the Soviet Union. It governs through a combination of marshals, of whom G. K. Zhukov is the principal. Khrushchev, who in 1953 held the same economic views as Malenkov, understood the situation in time and swung to the Army and heavy industry in the spring of 1954. Malenkov did not do this nor did Anastas I. Mikoyan, who continued to hold fast to the consumer industry line. Both have been demoted. That they have not been banished means that they, unlike Beriya, did not represent any power as such. V. M. Molotov should be regarded as an "elder statesman" who personally disliked Stalin, Beriya, and Malenkov.
- 4. The Army now rules, but no total dictatorship has been established. The Soviet structure, however, presupposes a dictatorship. "It is not possible to rule with Stalinism without Stalin." Everything goes slowly in the Kremlin and has since Stalin's death. A combination of marshals will not work faster. This presupposes no foreign political developments which could lead to war since, in the latter situation, a one-man dictatorship would be immediately established.

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